

**POPULATION: Introduction** 

INTRODUCTION

Use of Population Data in Vital Event Surveillance

Simple counts of information collected on vital certificates or forms are helpful in planning provisions for health services,

because they document the number of people who experience health events in a particular geographic area.

When questions concerning comparisons between groups arise, however, simple counts are often misleading because they do

not account for differences in the composition of the groups. For example, more people die in towns where the majority of the

inhabitants are elderly than in towns with a majority of young adults, simply because older people die more often than younger

people do. Solely relying on counts as a measure of the magnitude of the vital event would deceptively imply that the town with

a greater majority of elderly people has an abnormally high occurrence of death. Statisticians calculate rates to address these

and other concerns related to the magnitude of a vital event. Rates also enhance the ability to compare groups with each other.

Rates provide a way to relate the number of events that occurred to the population in which they occurred. They are calculated

by dividing the number of events by the number of people in the group, then multiplying the quotient by some number (such as

1,000 or 100,000) to facilitate comparison of rates within the population to rates for other groups. As is often the case, when the

number of individuals in a group where the event occurred is not known, census population data is used to estimate the number.

Louisiana population figures provide a frame of reference for examining the vital events that occur within the resident population

within a particular year. State population figures are used to calculate the overall rates at which births and deaths occur

throughout the state.

Source of Data: US Census 2000

For the years that fall between the ten-year census counts, intercensal population estimates are calculated by the United States

Census Bureau. These estimates of yearly populations are based on determinations of the number of births, deaths, and

migrations into and out of the state on an annual basis.

Data from the 2000 census were used in the calculation of rates in this report.

Louisiana Office of Public Health, State Center for Health Statistics

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## **Population Estimates**

The 2000 US census places the number of Louisiana residents at 4,468,976. Between 1945 and the mid-1980s, the total population in Louisiana showed a steady increase. In the late 1980s, the state experienced a net population

loss, due primarily to migration out of the state. Since that time, the population levels have risen to their early 1980s levels. Historical estimates of the total Louisiana population are shown in Table P1. Estimates grouped by sex, race, and

age describe the composition of Louisiana's population. These estimates are used to calculate rates that allow for comparisons of vital events among population subgroups (Table P2).

	Table P1.	
Population,	Louisiana,	1945-2000

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Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1945	2,429,000	1965	3,496,000	1985	4,408,118
1946	2,556,000	1966	3,550,000	1986	4,406,919
1947	2,579,000	1967	3,581,000	1987	4,344,148
1948	2,596,000	1968	3,603,000	1988	4,288,863
1949	2,634,000	1969	3,619,000	1989	4,252,894
1950	2,697,000	1970	3,644,637	1990	4,219,179
1951	2,769,000	1971	3,710,487	1991	4,240,150
1952	2,842,000	1972	3,761,646	1992	4,270,849
1953	2,866,000	1973	3,788,375	1993	4,284,749
1954	2,883,000	1974	3,820,109	1994	4,306,500
1955	2,946,000	1975	3,886,104	1995	4,327,978
1956	3,032,000	1976	3,950,605	1996	4,338,763
1957	3,115,000	1977	4,014,459	1997	4,351,390
1958	3,155,000	1978	4,068,579	1998	4,362,758
1959	3,208,000	1979	4,137,665	1999	4,372,035
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1960	3,260,000	1980	4,205,900	2000	4,468,976
1961	3,287,000	1981	4,283,303		
1962	3,345,000	1982	4,352,608		
1963	3,377,000	1983	4,395,316		
1964	3,446,000	1984	4,400,477		
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Source: United States Census Bureau

Table P2.
Population by Sex, Race, and Age Groups 0-49
Louisiana, 2000

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_	T _	Age Group									
Sex	Race	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
	White	90,077	95,021	100,604	106,743	96,487	92,642	98,025	111,567	115,982	105,560
Male	Black	63,956	70,528	70,127	70,183	56,661	45,440	44,942	48,549	49,010	43,110
	Other	7,762	7,216	6,968	7,452	8,023	7,250	6,499	6,468	5,774	4,945
	Total	161,795	172,765	177,699	184,378	161,171	145,332	149,466	166,584	170,766	153,615
	White	86,248	89,597	95,363	103,788	94,818	91,943	96,920	112,493	114,724	105,699
Female	Black	61,873	67,684	68,294	70,759	62,530	52,326	52,639	57,993	57,447	51,202
	Other	7,476	6,734	6,556	7,020	7,052	6,560	5,976	6,058	5,901	5,252
	Total	155,597	164,015	170,213	181,567	164,400	150,829	155,535	176,544	178,072	162,153

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

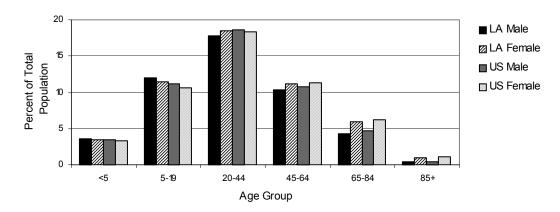
Table P2 (cont.)
Population by Sex, Race, and Age Groups 50-85+
Louisiana, 2000

Sex	Race	Age Group								
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	Total
	White	93,686	73,198	58,966	50,327	44,953	33,607	18,762	11,811	1,398,018
Male	Black	33,846	23,618	18,744	14,786	12,062	8,626	5,069	4,233	683,490
	Other	4,058	2,824	2,104	1,539	1,136	669	434	274	81,395
	Total	131,590	99,640	79,814	66,652	58,151	42,902	24,265	16,318	2,162,903
Female	White	94,938	76,998	63,946	58,974	57,011	48,924	33,982	31,777	1,458,143
	Black	39,743	29,137	24,332	20,571	18,333	13,999	9,605	9,987	768,454
	Other	4,232	2,986	2,195	1,807	1,426	998	653	594	79,476
	Total	138,913	109,121	90,473	81,352	76,770	63,921	44,240	42,358	2,306,073

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Subgroup estimates, expressed as a percentage of the total population, indicate that population compositions for the state and the nation are very similar in the distribution of sex and age (Figure P1, Table P3). For both the state and the nation, the largest age group is 20-44 years, and the smallest age group is 85+ years.

Figure P1. Percent of Total Population by Sex and Age Group Louisiana and United States, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Table P3.
Percent of Total Population by Sex and Age Group
Louisiana and United States, 2000

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	Age Group										
Location	Sex	<5	5-19	20-44	45-64	65-84	85+	All Ages			
	Male	3.6	12.0	17.8	10.4	4.3	0.4	48.4			
LA	Female	3.5	11.5	18.5	11.2	6.0	0.9	51.6			
	Both	7.1	23.5	36.3	21.6	10.3	1.3	*100.0			
	Male	3.5	11.2	18.6	10.7	4.7	0.4	49.1			
US	Female	3.3	10.6	18.4	11.3	6.2	1.1	50.9			
	Both	6.8	21.8	37.0	22.0	10.9	1.5	100.0			

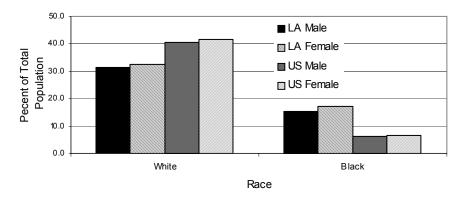
Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

\*Note: may not sum to 100.0 due to rounding

In Louisiana, blacks comprise 32.5% of the population. In the United States, blacks comprise less than 13% of the population (Figure P2, Table P4). Within individual age groups, specific race and sex distributions become more disparate as age increases.

As Louisiana's population ages, the proportion of women to men increases. For age-groups under and including 44 years of age, the percentages of men and women are nearly equal. In age groups over and including 45 years of age, women increasingly outnumber men.

Figure P2. Percents of Total Population by Sex and Race Louisiana and United States, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Population Estimates

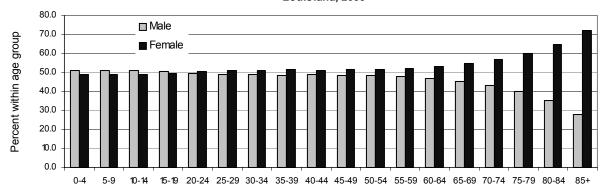
In the 85+ age group, there are almost three times as many women as men (Fig. P3, Fig. P4 and Table P5).

Table P4.
Percent of Total Population by Race and Sex
Louisiana and United States, 2000

Location					
	Sex	White	Black	Other	Total
	Male	31.3	15.3	1.8	48.4
Louisiana	Female	32.6	17.2	1.8	51.6
	Both	63.9	32.5	3.6	100.0
	Male	40.4	6.1	2.4	48.9
United States	Female	41.8	6.7	2.6	51.1
	Both	82.2	12.8	5.0	100.0

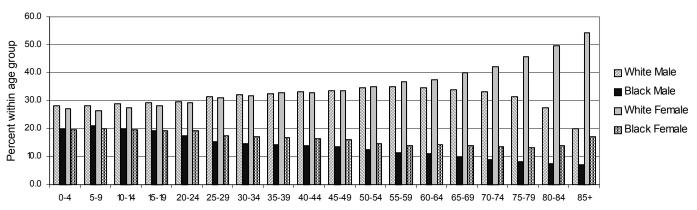
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Population Estimates

Figure P3. Percent Distribution of Sex Within Age Group Louisiana, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Figure P4. Distribution of Race and Sex Within Age Group Louisiana, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Table P5.
Percent Distribution by Race and Sex, Within Age Group
Louisiana, 2000

			Age Group											
Sex	Race	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49			
	White	28.4	28.2	28.9	29.2	29.6	31.3	32.1	32.5	33.2	33.4			
Male	Black	20.2	20.9	20.2	19.2	17.4	15.3	14.7	14.1	14.0	13.7			
	Other	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.6			
	Total	51.0	51.3	51.1	50.4	49.5	49.1	49.0	48.5	49.0	48.6			
	White	27.2	26.6	27.4	28.4	29.1	31.0	31.8	32.8	32.9	33.5			
Female	Black	19.5	20.1	19.6	19.3	19.2	17.7	17.3	16.9	16.5	16.2			
	Other	2.4	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.7			
	Total	49.0	48.7	48.9	49.6	50.5	50.9	51.0	51.5	51.0	51.4			

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Table P5 (cont.)
Percent Distribution by Race and Sex, Within Age Group
Louisiana, 2000

			Age Group											
Sex	Race	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	Total				
	White	34.6	35.1	34.6	34.0	33.3	31.5	27.4	20.1	31.3				
Male	Black	12.5	11.3	11.0	10.0	8.9	8.1	7.4	7.2	15.3				
	Other	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.8				
	Total	48.6	47.7	46.9	45.0	43.1	40.2	35.4	27.8	48.4				
	White	35.1	36.9	37.6	39.8	42.3	45.8	49.6	54.2	32.6				
Female	Black	14.7	14.0	14.3	13.9	13.6	13.1	14.0	17.0	17.2				
	Other	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.8				
	Total	51.4	52.3	53.1	55.0	56.9	59.8	64.6	72.2	51.6				

Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census

2000 Census populations for each of Louisiana's 64 parishes (counties) show the distribution of the total population in the state. Parish-level populations are shown in Table P6.

Table P6. Population Counts by Parish Louisiana, 2000								
Parish	2000 Census	Parish	2000 Census					
Acadia	58,861	Madison	13,728					
Allen	25,440	Morehouse	31,021					
Ascension	76,627	Natchitoches	39,080					
Assumption	23,388	Orleans	484,674					
Avoyelles	41,481	Ouachita	147,250					
Beauregard	32,986	Plaquemines	26,757					
Bienville	15,752	Pointe Coupee	22,763					
Bossier	98,310	Rapides	126,337					
Caddo	252,161	Red River	9,622					
Calcasieu	183,577	Richland	20,981					
Caldwell	10,560	Sabine	23,459					
Cameron	9,991	St. Bernard	67,229					
Catahoula	10,920	St. Charles	48,072					
Claiborne	16,851	St. Helena	10,525					
Concordia	20,247	St. James	21,216					
DeSoto	25,494	St. John	43,044					
East Baton Rouge	412,852	St. Landry	87,700					
East Carroll	9,421	St. Martin	48,583					
East Feliciana	21,360	St. Mary	53,500					
Evangeline	35,434	St. Tammany	191,268					
Franklin	21,263	Tangipahoa	100,588					
Grant	18,698	Tensas	6,618					
Iberia	73,266	Terrebonne	104,503					
Iberville	33,320	Union	22,803					
Jackson	15,397	Vermilion	53,807					
Jefferson	455,466	Vernon	52,531					
Jefferson Davis	31,435	Washington	43,926					
Lafayette	190,503	Webster	41,831					
Lafourche	89,974	West Baton Rouge	21,601					
LaSalle	14,282	West Carroll	12,314					
Lincoln	42,509	West Feliciana	15,111					
Livingston	91,814	Winn	16,894					

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census